

PLEBIAN

Origin of plebs is lost in legend, but they seem to have existed from the first at Rome, and they gradually gained the right to all offices, with certain special ones for themselves, of which the greatest was the tribune.

DEFROSTER

The soldanelias is a tiny plant that grows on the lower slopes of the Alps. The plant releases so much heat that it is able to melt a path or course through a thick coating of ice and snow, in its efforts to reach the light and air above.

KNOW YOUR REALTY BOARD
BY
Grace Hinshaw

Our realtor this week is a real native Californian, son of a native daughter! W. E. Bowen was born in San Jose just before the turn of the century. His father came from Ohio in 1880 and was active in the commercial, scientific and political development of our great state. Perhaps this early exposure to civic and state affairs accounts for the wide interests of our realtor in the spotlight this week.



W. E. BOWEN

"W. E." spent the elementary years in a one-roomed country school in which nine grades were fed from the same nose-bag of instruction. After living through the awful experience of the San Francisco earthquake and fire in 1906, the son and heir was packed off to grandma's in Marion, Ohio, to finish his public school education and he also spent a year as a student at Western Reserve, Cleveland. He finished just in time to be snapped up for Army duty in the old Twelfth Infantry Regiment.

Corporation accounting and cost accounting interested Mr. Bowen as a career and for a few years he sampled this work with two or three companies, one of these bringing him to Torrance—Union Tool, now National Supply. Eventually he found himself as assistant secretary and manager of the Torrance Mutual Building and Loan and this position gave him the opportunity to guide the institution successfully through the weird years of 1929 to 1942 when it was merged with the Lincoln Savings and Loan Association of Los Angeles. During this time, "W. E." secured his insurance license and his real estate brokers license and, when the merger was consummated, he opened up an active insurance and real estate office right where he is now, 1527 Post avenue, Torrance.

During the first struggling years of the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board it was Mr. Bowen who supplied a great deal of the "glue" to hold the board together until it was strong enough to walk. Under Mr. Bowen's term as president of the Realty Board, the Multiple Listing Service was put into operation, and our realty board qualified for membership in the California Real Estate Association as well as the National Real Estate Association.

More recently, "W. E." has held the positions of a state director and regional vice-president of the Twenty-first District.

Besides all this career-wise activity, Mr. Bowen has always taken an active interest in civic, religious and educational affairs. He has served on several state boards of religious organizations as well as taking an active part in the affairs of his own church. The Torrance Area Youth Band and the Rotary Club have been fortunate in having his guiding hand also.

And with this myriad of activities, Mr. Bowen still has time to serve on the board of directors of our growing realty board. He has recently opened a branch office in North Torrance, 3021 West 174th street, under the capable supervision of Charles E. Severin.

IT IS impossible that an ill-natured man can have a public spirit; for how should he love ten thousand men who has never loved one?—Pope.

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